

Among other advantages, the second database serves as a separate and independent database for identifying to the backup system those hosts that it is able to communicate with. Thus, access to the backup storage can be managed to prevent access by unauthorized host computers. In this way, security is increased and the risk of overwriting of the backup storage is virtually eliminated. Moreover, the primary data storage (i.e., non-backup storage) is managed separately using the first database without fear of corruption from the external backup storage. This feature is particularly advantageous in applications where the data storage is fully partitioned for use with the hosts and does not require modification to accommodate use with the external backup storage. (Pages 2, line 23- page 4, line 4).

The Blumenau patent simply does not suggest first and second databases having first and second configuration data, respectively, for use in the manner recited in claim 1. We submit, therefore, that claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from the Blumenau patent.

Because claims 2-8 depend from independent claim 1, we submit that these claims are patentable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is patentable.

Independent Claim 9

The Examiner also rejected claim 9-13 as anticipated by the Blumenau patent. We submit, however, that Blumenau does not disclose a method for managing access between hosts and a backup system that is part of a data storage including at least one data storage device partitioned into volumes and a first database including first configuration data used by the hosts to determine which hosts have authorized access to the volumes, the method comprising determining, in response to second configuration data from a second database, that the host requesting access is authorized to access the portion of data stored on the backup system, as required by amended claim 9. As stated above, in conjunction with claim 1, Blumenau does not suggest first and second databases having first and second configuration data, respectively, much less, determining, in response to the second configuration data, that a host requesting access is authorized to access the portion of data stored on the backup system.

Because claims 10-13 depend from independent claim 9, we submit that these claims are patentable for at least the same reasons that claim 9 is patentable.

Applicant : Steven Blumenau et al.
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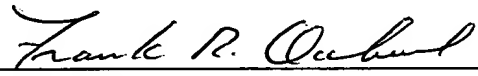
Attorney's Docket No.: 07-922001 / EMC 99-001

Attached is a marked-up version of the changes being made by the current amendment.

We ask that all claims be allowed. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit
Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version with markings to show changes made

In the specification:

Paragraph beginning at page 5, line 23 has been amended as follows:

Referring to Fig. 1, a number of host computers 10 are coupled to an enterprise storage system 12 through a communications network, here a Fibre Channel network 14. The term "enterprise" as used here means that the storage system is configured to allow multiple connectivity by, for example, hosts provided by different vendors. As will be described below, such storage systems typically include many large disk drive [unites] units controlled by a complex, multi-tasking, disk drive controller such as the EMC Symmetrix disk drive controller, a product of EMC Corporation, Hopkinton, Massachusetts.

In the claims:

9. (Amended) A method for managing access between a plurality of hosts and a backup system, the backup system being part of a data storage including at least one data storage device partitioned into a plurality of volumes and a first database including first configuration data used by the hosts to determine which hosts have authorized access to each of the plurality of volumes, the method comprising:
- receiving, by the data storage, a request from at least one of the hosts for access to data stored on the backup system; and
- determining, in response to second configuration data from a second database, that the host requesting access is authorized to access the portion of data stored on the backup system.